

_____ BILL NO. _____

INTRODUCED BY _____

(Primary Sponsor)

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT DOUBLING THE FINES FOR TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS IN A SCHOOL ZONE; AND DEFINING "SCHOOL ZONE".

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Traffic violations in school zones -- definitions. (1) As used in this section, the following definitions apply:

(a) "Public highway" has the same meaning as in 60-1-103.

(b) "School zone" means that portion of a public highway that is either adjacent to territory occupied by a school building or where a school crossing is established in the vicinity of a school building. The boundaries of the school zone must be clearly identified by the posting of signs.

(2) The speed limit in a school zone must be set by the department of transportation or the local authority in accordance with the provisions of this part.

(3) (a) The department of transportation or the local authority shall post signs that:

(i) conform to the department of transportation's manual on uniform traffic control devices;

(ii) indicate the boundaries of the school zone; and

(iii) display the speed limit within the school zone.

(b) The department of transportation or the local authority shall clearly indicate at the boundary of a school zone that a person who violates any of the provisions of this part in the school zone is subject to the fine provided in subsection (4).

(4) A person convicted of a traffic violation in a school zone is guilty of a misdemeanor. Upon arrest and conviction, the person shall be punished by a fine of not less than double the penalty for the violation as provided in part 7 of this chapter.

NEW SECTION. Section 2. Codification instruction. [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 61, chapter 8, part 3, and the provisions of Title 61, chapter 8, part 3, apply to [section 1].

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